

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion and in view of the present amendment, is respectfully requested.

Claims 10-13, 28-31, and 46-49 are allowed. Claim 6 has been amended. Claims 1-5, 9, 14-23, 27, 32-41, 45, 50-54 have been cancelled. Claims 6-8, 10-13, 24-26, 28-31, 42-44, and 46-49 are pending and under consideration. This amendment is believed to place the application in condition for allowance, and entry therefore is respectfully requested. In the alternative, entry of this amendment is requested as placing the application in better condition for appeal by, at least, reducing the number of issues outstanding.

Entry of Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

The Applicant requests entry of this Rule 116 Response because: Examiner has newly cited a reference not previously made of record in rejecting the claims; and the amendment does not significantly alter the scope of the claims and places the application at least into a better form for purposes of appeal. No new features or new issues are being raised.

The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures (M.P.E.P.) sets forth in Section 714.12 that “any amendment that would place the case either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal may be entered.” Moreover, Section 714.13 sets forth that “the Proposed Amendment should be given sufficient consideration to determine whether the claims are in condition for allowance and/or whether the issues on appeal are simplified.” The M.P.E.P. further articulates that the reason for any non-entry should be explained expressly in the Advisory Action.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In the Office Action, at page 2, numbered paragraphs 4-5, claim 6 was rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 because the recited limitation “said display area” in line 13 lacked sufficient antecedent basis. Claim 6 has been amended to recite “said divided display area.” Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 112 rejection is respectfully requested and it is submitted that claim 6 is in a condition suitable for allowance.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, at pages 2-4, numbered paragraph 6, claims 6-8, 24-26, and 42-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Rivette et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,623,681).

Claims 6-8

Rivette et al. does not discuss or suggest “said control unit, when the identifying information corresponding to the divided display area is specified through said operation unit, enlarges said divided display area corresponding to the identifying information up to said predetermined display area, displays only said divided display area and deletes other divided display areas,” as recited in claim 6. In other words, the invention of claim 6 allows the *enlargement* of a desired divided display area up to the predetermined display area by specifying the *identifying information* of the desired divided display area. Furthermore, when the enlargement of the desired divided display area occurs, all other divided displays areas are *deleted*. In contrast, Rivette et al., as relied on by the Examiner, merely discloses a series of screen layout options that can include different orientations of display windows (text and image windows). While these display windows may resemble the divided display areas of the invention of claim 6, they are not provided with identifying information at all, much less identifying information that can be manipulated in order to enlarge a desired window up to the size of the screen, while deleting the other windows. Rivette et al. makes no mention of *enlarging* a desired divided display area by specifying *identifying information* and *deleting* the other divided display units. As relied on by the Examiner, Rivette et al. only allows a user to select a screen layout from a dialogue box.

Since Rivette et al. does not discuss or suggest “said control unit, when the identifying information corresponding to the divided display area is specified through said operation unit, enlarges said divided display area corresponding to the identifying information up to said predetermined display area, displays only said divided display area and deletes other divided display areas,” as recited in claim 6, claim 6 patentably distinguishes over the reference relied upon. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 7-8 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 6, and include all the features of claim 6, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the reference relied upon. Therefore, claims 7-8 patentably distinguish over the reference relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of these § 102(b) rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 24-26

Similarly, Rivette et al. does not discuss or suggest “wherein when the identifying information corresponding to the divided display area is specified, said divided display area corresponding to the identifying information is enlarged up to said predetermined display area,

only said divided display area is displayed and other divided display areas are deleted,” as recited in claim 24. Therefore, claim 24 patentably distinguishes over the reference relied upon. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 25-26 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 24, and include all the features of claim 24, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the reference relied upon. Therefore, claims 25-26 patentably distinguish over the reference relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of these § 102(b) rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 42-44

Similarly, Rivette et al. does not discuss or suggest “wherein when the identifying information corresponding to the divided display area is specified, said divided display area corresponding to the identifying information is enlarged up to said predetermined display area, only said divided display area is displayed and other divided display areas are deleted,” as recited in claim 42. Therefore, claim 42 patentably distinguishes over the reference relied upon. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 43-44 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 42, and include all the features of claim 42, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the reference relied upon. Therefore, claims 43-44 patentably distinguish over the reference relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of these § 102(b) rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Claims 6-8, 10-13, 24-26, 28-31, 42-44, and 46-49 are pending and under consideration.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

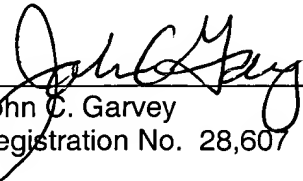
If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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